

Dear Governor Palin:

The Murkowski Era "Roads to Resources" Program has allowed for the illegal construction of the Bostwick Road on Gravina Island across the Tongass Narrows from Ketchikan. Even though each agency involved with the road (DNR, DOT, USFS, Ketchikan Gateway Borough) stated this road will remain open for recreational and other purposes, no permits were ever sought for this road under the Clean Water Act via the Army Corps of Engineers.

Corps staff visited the site and were appalled by the conditions and lack of permitting. At least 6 unpermitted pits are in place. Erosion controls are all but non-existent. Wetlands have been destroyed by haphazard construction. Corps staff will verify all of this.

Corps staff worked diligently to issue a Cease and Desist order. The order was completed in order to halt construction in January 2007. In a short matter of time, Mike Rabbe, head of the Regulatory Division of the Corps, put a stop to the legal course of action proposed by Corps staff and the order was never officially enacted.

The project has continued to date and is illegal under the Clean Water Act according to Corps standards.

I ask you, Governor Palin, to close the state road and end all activity related to its use and construction until proper Corps permits are in place, mitigation is performed to curtail damage, and erosion controls are in place.

Thank you for giving this matter attention.

Sincerely,  
Gregory Vickrey  
Ketchikan resident